CURRENT LITERATURE.

MINOR NOTICES.

MR. A. P. MORGAN has just published his fourth paper upon the Myxomycetes of the Miami valley (Ohio),[1] containing the Physaraceæ. Out of Physarum of Persoon's *Synopsis* (1801) seven genera have come, which with Fuligo and Craterium makes this family the largest one of the Myxomycetes. Mr. Morgan has followed Lister in discarding Tilmadoche of Fries, but he has separated from Physarum a new genus, *Cytidium*, characterized by the presence of a columella, and composed for the most part of very closely related species. Both Leocarpus and Craterium have been enlarged to receive two or three species of Physarum. Scyphium of Rostafinski is restored, being characterized by the form of the sporangium and the prolongation of the stipe into a columella. Examination of the forms merged by Rostafinski under *Fuligo varians* has decided the author to return to the species of Persoon. A fifth paper is intended to close the series.—J. M. C.

MR. P. A. RYDBERG has published the results of his study of the North American species of the perplexing genus Physalis.[2] No genus was in greater need of careful revision, as the species are difficult to separate, and apparently most of those recognized were composites. To their disentanglement Mr. Rydberg has brought great patience, a good insight, and an abundance of material. His examination of herbarium material has been unusually complete, and much field work has served to make this examination profitable. When many accepted species are represented by a plexus of species the synonymy becomes peculiarly difficult, and the author confesses to the chaotic condition in which he found the synonymy of Physalis. A full and critical discussion of the species precedes their synoptical presentation, in which are included the five allied genera Margaranthus, Quincula, Leucophysalis, Chamæsaracha, and Orcytes. Margaranthus contains four species, one of which (*M. purpurascens*) is new. Of Physalis thirty-nine species are recognized, with the statement that many remain undescribed, notably Mexican forms. *P. pubescens*, as formerly recognized, is broken up into *P. pubescens* L., *P. pruinosa* L., *P. Neo-Mexicana*, n. sp., *P. Barbadensis* Jacq., and *P. Lagascæ* Roem. & Sch. *P. lanceifolia* Nees is separated from *P. angulata* L. *P. ixocarpa* Brot. replaces *P. æquata* Jacq. *P. lanceolata lævigata* Gray becomes *P. longifolia* Nutt., and the allied *P. Texana* is described

[1] MORGAN, A. P.—The Myxomycetes of the Miami valley, Ohio. Jour. Cincinnati Soc. Nat. Hist. **19**:73–110. *pl. 13–15*. 1896.

[2] RYDBERG, PER AXEL.—The North American species of Physalis and related genera. Memoirs of the Torr. Bot. Club **4**:297–374. 1896.

as new. *P. lanceolata hirta* Gray is *P. pumila* Nutt., and *P. Virginiana* Mill. is separated from *P. lanceolata* Michx., while *P. Virginiana* Gray and *P. viscosa* Pursh become *P. heterophylla* Nees. *P. ciliosa*, n. sp., is from the Gulf states, *P. rotundifolia*, n. sp., is from the West, *P. hastata*, n. sp., is from Lower California. The genus *Quincula* Raf. is recognized, and includes *Physalis lobata* Torr. *Leucophysalis* is a new genus constructed upon *Physalis grandiflora* Hook. It seems that *Chamæsaracha Coronopus*, as recognized, was a plexus, from which the author has separated *C. crenata*, n. sp., and *C. conoides* Britton (*C. sordida* Gray). *Orcytes* Wats. still remains a monotypic genus.—J. M. C.

NOTES FOR STUDENTS.

THE FIRST FASCICLE of *Pringle's Mexican Fungi* has recently been distributed by the Cambridge Botanical Supply Company. It consists of ten numbers, as follows: 1. *Puccinia heterospora* B. & C. on Anoda; 2. *P. heterospora* B. & C. on a malvaceous plant; 3. *Uromyces effusus* (Pk.) DeToni on Rhus Mexicana; 4. *U. Sophoræ* Pk. on Sophora sericea, uredospores; 5. Same, teleutospores; 6. *Æcidium Solani* Mont. on Solanum torvum; 7. *Æcid. Anisacanthi* Pk. on Anisacanthus virgularis; 8. *Parodiella perisporioides* (B. & C.) Speg. on Indigofera; 9. *Puccinia Tetramerii* Seym. on Tetramerium aureum; 10. *Leptostroma vestita* S. & P. on Agave vestita. The specimens are well put up and bear printed labels. The publication is edited by Mr. A. B. Seymour. Nos. 9 and 10 are new species; the descriptions accompany the specimens. They are also described in the *Botanical Notices*[3] of same date. As neither of these publications are likely to have a wide circulation, the descriptions are reproduced here.

Puccinia Tetramerii Seymour (Pringle's Mexican Fungi, No. 9, September 1, 1896).—Spots none; sori amphigenous, varying from minute to 5^{mm} in diameter, very dark; spores elliptical, covered with coarse blunt warts, dark, with broad and blunt apiculus somewhat lighter and occasionally a similar less prominent projection at side of spore; size of spore 11–15.5 × 33–42 μ; pedicels about 78 μ long, colored at junction with spore, otherwise hyaline, rough below.

On leaves of *Tetramerium aureum* Rose. Tomellin Cañon, Oaxaca, Mexico, November 30, 1895. Collector, C. G. Pringle.

Leptostroma vestita Seymour & Patterson (Pringle's Mexican Fungi, No. 10, September 1, 1896).—Amphigenous, mostly epigenous, stromata numerous, imbedded and slightly depressed, orbicular to oblong, .5–1^{mm} (rarely to 2.5^{mm}), covering most of the upper leaf surface, distinct or often confluent, olive with a narrow black margin; conceptacles 2 to 5 in a stroma; spores hyaline, linear, multiguttulate, guttulæ often elongated and appearing like vacuoles; size of spores 30–85 × 4 μ.

On leaves of *Agave vestita* Watson. Barranca near Guadalajara, Mexico, May 1891. Collector, C. G. Pringle.—J. C. A.

[3] A trade publication in the form of a card catalogue issued monthly by the Cambridge Botanical Supply Co.